

## **§ 250.119**

### **§ 250.119 Will MMS approve subsurface gas storage?**

The Regional Supervisor may authorize subsurface storage of gas on the OCS, on and off-lease, for later commercial benefit. To receive MMS approval you must:

(a) Show that the subsurface storage of gas will not result in undue interference with operations under existing leases; and

(b) Sign a storage agreement that includes the required payment of a storage fee or rental.

### **§ 250.120 How does injecting, storing, or treating gas affect my royalty payments?**

(a) If you produce gas from an OCS lease and inject it into a reservoir on the lease or unit for the purposes cited in § 250.118(b), you are not required to pay royalties until you remove or sell the gas from the reservoir.

(b) If you produce gas from an OCS lease and store it according to § 250.119, you must pay royalty before injecting it into the storage reservoir.

(c) If you produce gas from an OCS lease and treat it at an off-lease or off-unit location, you must pay royalties when the gas is first produced.

### **§ 250.121 What happens when the reservoir contains both original gas in place and injected gas?**

If the reservoir contains both original gas in place and injected gas, when you produce gas from the reservoir you must use an MMS-approved formula to determine the amounts of injected or stored gas and gas original to the reservoir.

### **§ 250.122 What effect does subsurface storage have on the lease term?**

If you use a lease area for subsurface storage of gas, it does not affect the continuance or expiration of the lease.

### **§ 250.123 Will MMS allow gas storage on unleased lands?**

You may not store gas on unleased lands unless the Regional Supervisor approves a right-of-use and easement for that purpose, under §§ 250.160 through 250.166 of this subpart.

## **30 CFR Ch. II (7–1–03 Edition)**

### **§ 250.124 Will MMS approve gas injection into the cap rock containing a sulphur deposit?**

To receive the Regional Supervisor's approval to inject gas into the cap rock of a salt dome containing a sulphur deposit, you must show that the injection:

(a) Is necessary to recover oil and gas contained in the cap rock; and

(b) Will not significantly increase potential hazards to present or future sulphur mining operations.

## **INSPECTION OF OPERATIONS**

### **§ 250.130 Why does MMS conduct inspections?**

MMS will inspect OCS facilities and any vessels engaged in drilling or other downhole operations. These include facilities under jurisdiction of other Federal agencies that we inspect by agreement. We conduct these inspections:

(a) To verify that you are conducting operations according to the Act, the regulations, the lease, right-of-way, the approved Exploration Plan or Development and Production Plans; or right-of-use and easement, and other applicable laws and regulations; and

(b) To determine whether equipment designed to prevent or ameliorate blowouts, fires, spillages, or other major accidents has been installed and is operating properly according to the requirements of this part.

### **§ 250.131 Will MMS notify me before conducting an inspection?**

MMS conducts both scheduled and unscheduled inspections.

### **§ 250.132 What must I do when MMS conducts an inspection?**

(a) When MMS conducts an inspection, you must provide:

(1) Access to all platforms, artificial islands, and other installations on your leases or associated with your lease, right-of-use and easement, or right-of-way; and

(2) Helicopter landing sites and refueling facilities for any helicopters we use to regulate offshore operations.

(b) You must make the following available for us to inspect: